



COCHIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

21st of February 1930.

Friday, the _____
10th of Kumbhom 1105.

The House met at Half past Eleven of the Clock with the President in the Chair. Messrs. E. Ikkanda Warriar, K. T. Mathew, K. Mohamed Seethi and I. Raman Menon were absent.

Questions and Answers.

Trees marked in reserved forests excluded for assignment to the Pulayas.

273. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to place on the Table of the House:—

(a) 1. the list of trees marked in the reserve forest in the Kodasseri village, which was recently excluded for assignment or lease to the Pulayas;

2. what was the quantity of timber and fuel estimated before exclusion; and

3. what was the amount realised by sale of the same;

(b) what was the total quantity of timber and fuel removed by the purchaser as seen from the B Form passes issued for this purpose; and

(c) what is the quantity which still remains on the spot?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—(a)

1. The list is placed on the Council Table.

2. 305 of candies 71-8-2-14 and 104½ cart-loads of fuel.

3. Rs. 660.

(b) No removal was effected under B Form passes. But 653 logs of candies 936-2-0-4½ and 447 cart-loads of fuel were removed under red passes.

(c) About 20—40 cart-loads of fuel and 20 logs of about 5 candies.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—May I know what is the number 305, is it the number of logs?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—The number of trees marked.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—May I know what is the cause of this abnormal difference between the estimate and actual quantity that is removed? According to (a) (2) the estimate was 71 and odd candies. But from (b) it will be found

that 936 and odd candies were removed. May I know what is the cause of this difference?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—The marking was done only with regard to the more important and valuable species. The purchaser removed all worthless species also as, fuel, and so on.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Are not the worthless species also included before the estimate?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—It is only a rough estimate for the sake of arriving at a rough figure for the purpose of conducting the sale. In such cases ordinarily the worthless species are not listed and taken account of.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—May I know what will be the rough price of the 936 and odd candies?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—It was a lump sum sale, and the price is Rs. 660 for the whole stock.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—It is less than a rupee per candy, and there are 447 cart-loads of fuel.

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—It included all species.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—What is the general price for a cart-load of fuel sold by the Forest Department?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—12 as. per cart-load.

Monopoly timber felled in Nerangampara coupe.

274. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to state what is the approximate value and quantity of monopoly timber felled in Nerangampara coupe referred to in answer to question No. 204 (3) of the Budget Session of 1104 and when was it felled;

(2) was the Diwan's sanction obtained for the same; if so, when and what are the orders of the Diwan in the matter;

(3) what was done with this timber; if sold, how much money was realised by the sale?

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—(1) Approximate value Rs. 47,000.

Approximate quantity 2,214 candies.

In 1103.

(2) Yes, on 29th February 1928. The Conservator's proposal was approved in case better rates could not be obtained by inviting tenders.

(3) Sold in auction for Rs. 47,619-1-0.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—May I know the exact date when the timber was felled? I shall be satisfied, if I know whether the Diwan sanctioned it after the felling of the timber.

Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—Before felling.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—May I know whether any collection charge was paid for this illicit felling of timber?